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FRANK L. HOOFS.....MANAGER

WEDNESDAY.....MARCH 6, 1907

A Local Option Measure

Representative John Hughes has introduced a very simple and comprehensive local option bill. It provides that at every general election held in the Territory of Hawaii, the question of the prohibition of the sale of liquor in each election precinct throughout the Territory shall be presented to the electors of the several precincts. This is to be done by provision on a ballot supplied for this purpose, which shall read: "Shall the sale of intoxicating liquors be licensed in this precinct during the next two years?" with the words "Yes" and "No" with appropriate spaces for marking. The voters are to express their views by marking "Yes" or "No" and the majority in each precinct shall govern for that precinct. If the majority in any precinct is "Yes," the general laws of the Territory relating to the licensing of saloons shall have full force and effect. If the majority is "No," then it shall be unlawful for the Treasurer of the Territory or any other authorized officer to issue any license to sell intoxicating liquors in such precinct during the ensuing two years.

The bill needs rephrasing in some portions of it to give it the legal explicitness required in statutes. But a very simple, almost automatic, plan of applying the principle of local option is outlined and made clear in the bill as it stands.

The question is submitted to the voters of each precinct at each general election. The result in each precinct is independent of the result in any other. Whenever the people of any precinct in which there are saloons think they want to get rid of them, all they have to do is to agitate the question in their own precinct, and secure if possible a favorable vote at the next general election. No petitions to have the question submitted to a vote are required. The question is automatically submitted, and the voters simply have to declare themselves on the subject.

On the other hand, in precincts where there are no saloons, if the people or any portion of them think they would like to have saloons, all they have to do is to secure the necessary vote. They do not have to petition to have the question submitted.

If the legislature intends to establish the principle of local option, it is difficult to see in what better form it could be adopted than in the form outlined by Representative Hughes in House Bill No. 75.

The Private Practice Act

It is to be hoped the legislature will speedily put a quietus on the bill now before the House which aims to prohibit Territorial and County officials from practicing in civil cases. There are two vital objections to the bill. One is to the wording which would prevent the Attorney General or the County Attorneys from appearing for the Territory or for the Counties in civil cases. There is other faulty phrasing. The other is to the principle involved in the bill.

In former years the Attorney General's department frequently employed outside attorneys to appear for the Territory in civil cases. A number of attorneys who had a "pull" were enabled in this way to make a considerable part of their income from this source. Of later years this practice has been gradually cut off, until during the present administration the entire work of the department which has increased enormously, is handled entirely by the regular force.

No doubt some of the attorneys who used to profit by the former practice of employing outside lawyers for civil cases, would like to see the bill pass as it would necessarily revive the old system.

That system was not commendable as a regular practice. Generally speaking the work of the Attorney General's department ought to be done by the regular force, so that responsibility will be centered where it belongs.

As the bill was brought in it would practically bar lawyers from the office of supervisor, for a lawyer would have to forego his practice to accept the office of supervisor under this bill, and no lawyer worth his salt as a lawyer or supervisor either, could afford to do that.

The United States permits its officials other than Judges to engage in the private practice of law, where they are lawyers. Its experience has lasted more than a century. If it can permit the practice, there seems no reason why the Territory and the Counties should not. The bill proposes a principle contrary to that which is practically universal throughout America. No adequate reason is given for thus going contrary to general experience. It looks as though there was something sinister behind the bill.

The Philosophy Of The Train

The American people are indebted to Mrs. Hwfa Williams, "the best dressed woman in Great Britain" for the real facts about the train—the extension of the dress skirt which is so called—which makes her regret, and ought to make us all regret, that they are not worn longer. It seems that the train gives to the ordinary woman, a svelte, graceful, willowy, lithe, sinuous, swan-neckish, elegant, distinguished, and delightful carriage and appearance and the longer it is, the better the effect.

Still there are some who hope that trains will not be worn any longer and that they will not any longer be worn. Trains properly require a page, or, in the absence of a page or squire, such art on the lady's part as no longer exists. The art of train-wearing and minutest-stepping has gone out.

Mrs. Hwfa Williams is agast that American women should follow the prevailing mode or cut of the dress so slavishly. There's a reason for that. If all Americans possessed "twenty-four boxes" filled with gear they could afford to disregard the stereotyped fashion of the time, but with only a frock or two apiece the generality of our dames have mercy on their husbands and select the kind of frock that all the others have, thus adopting a cheap conventionality like unto man's evening dress.

The advent of Mrs. Hwfa Williams and the generous publicity given her, thanks to her kindness to reporters, indicate how rapidly the business world is learning the lessons of diplomacy, and the advantages of having capable ambassadors. Mrs. Hwfa Williams, it is understood was brought to America by a syndicate of concerns whose business will be benefited by a considerable adoption of her views and practices. And this effect was expected when she was engaged to come. From the interest she is exciting in the east it must be assumed that those who brought her knew what they were doing and

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that she is probably a woman capable of earning her salary. It is something to have achieved the reputation of being the best dressed woman in Great Britain. But having achieved it, it seems to be capable of enabling the one who has it to continue to deserve the reputation.

Beckley has been called "Admiral" so long that he can almost claim the title by prescription.

E. W. Jordan has long been an American citizen.

Those Japs that went up on the Mongolia had no trouble being landed. This fable shows that "nothing dare, nothing do."

A week ago "Dr." J. Lor Wallace only wanted permission to go to the Lepers Settlement to heal the lepers free. He was granted the permission. Now he wants a house and a hospital. There is an Arab proverb about the camel who began by getting his nose inside the tent.

Suppose Lord Rosebery and Lord Curzon "shook" for that University honor.

The salvage business is looking up again.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Love keeps the family jars empty.

Heated arguments are apt to come home to roost.

There is something wrong with the woman who can't blush.

An aggressive man soon acquires a reputation as a knocker.

If a woman's "No" means "Yes," what does her "I don't know" mean?

It doesn't pay to hurry. Take your time—but don't take other people's.

What the average man really thinks of a coquette wouldn't look well in print.

Somehow a woman never seems to tire of her efforts to get an article worth all of a quarter for 39 cents.

At the marriage altar they take each other for better or for worse. A little later he thinks it couldn't be worse and she thinks she might have done better.

FACTS AND FANCIES.

(From the Public Ledger.)
"If you will invest \$1000," said the promoter, confidently "I will pay you 5 per cent a month."

"But for how many months?"
"Oh, for ten, say. That will be \$500. I need the other \$500 in my business."

According to statistics there are 12,000,000 men in the United States available for army purposes but several among them would demur at the \$13 a month pay.

Now Sweetenham and thirty cents are very much akin—
If all three dimes are punctured and are bogus ones of tin.

It seems likely that the Armenian or the Turk who gets naturalized in



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this country so as safely to raise Cain in his own will find his citizenship indefinitely suspended.

The Senate in bitter debate Closed the doors on reporters elate. Who thought this not handsome, Yet over the transom Kept track of some matters of state.

Boston wants to get rid of her blue laws. Most cities have blue laws, but they are kept merely as interesting souvenirs and not for practical

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